



North Central Idaho News

CLEARWATER, IDAHO, LATAH, LEWIS & NEZ PERCE COUNTIES

ECONOMIC TRENDS

PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Through surveys, research and analysis, the Idaho Department of Labor has identified specific future job opportunities including occupations that are the fastest growing, have high employment and are in high demand. These are also the occupations that are short on qualified applicants, according to employers, and include jobs emerging from new business in the region. A short list of these projected occupational opportunities is listed in North Central Idaho Table 2 on page 14. They are listed alphabetically, not according to a ranking order. A broader list of 538 occupations is available on the Idaho Labor LMI Web site at lmi.idaho.gov.

AREA DEVELOPMENTS

IDAHO & CLEARWATER COUNTIES

- Firefighting crews battled 18 forest fires in Idaho and Clearwater counties in July. Fires burned in steep, difficult terrain with limited access. Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter issued an emergency disaster declaration for Idaho County due to the risk to life and property from uncontrolled fires. The declaration will remain in place through August, authorizing the use of state government resources to assist local efforts. One of the largest fires, the Poe Cabin Fire had burned more than 54,000 acres by the end of July and was still only 60 percent contained. According to the Forest Service, extreme temperatures, winds, dry forests and fuels contributed to erratic fire behavior and rapid expansion. Total fire suppression costs for just the Poe Cabin Fire in July were \$5.4 million with nearly 700 firefighters battling the blaze at month's end.
- Residents in Grangeville and surrounding areas will soon get in-

North Central Idaho Table 1: Lewiston MSA Labor Force & Employment
Nez Perce County, Idaho and Asotin County, Washington

	Jun 2007*	May 2007	Jun 2006	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<i>Seasonally Adjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	29,800	30,170	29,200	-1.2	2.1
Unemployment	1,000	980	1,260	2.0	-20.6
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.4	3.2	4.3		
Total Employment	28,800	29,190	27,940	-1.3	3.1
<i>Unadjusted</i>					
Civilian Labor Force	29,730	30,080	29,060	-1.2	2.3
Unemployment	920	780	1,170	17.9	-21.4
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.1	2.6	4.0		
Total Employment	28,810	29,300	27,890	-1.7	3.3
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs** - NAICS	28,140	27,770	27,730	1.3	1.5
<i>Goods-Producing Industries</i>	4,860	4,720	4,980	3.0	-2.4
Natural Resources & Mining	210	170	220	23.5	-4.5
Construction	1,580	1,490	1,610	6.0	-1.9
Manufacturing	3,070	3,060	3,150	0.3	-2.5
Wood Product Manufacturing	560	540	570	3.7	-1.8
Paper Manufacturing	1,100	1,100	1,130	0.0	-2.7
Other Manufacturing	1,410	1,420	1,450	-0.7	-2.8
<i>Service-Providing Industries</i>	23,280	23,050	22,750	1.0	2.3
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	5,450	5,400	5,340	0.9	2.1
Wholesale Trade	670	680	620	-1.5	8.1
Retail Trade	3,540	3,500	3,540	1.1	0.0
Utilities	90	90	90	0.0	0.0
Transportation & Warehousing	1,150	1,130	1,090	1.8	5.5
Information	420	420	410	0.0	2.4
Financial Activities	2,040	2,020	2,000	1.0	2.0
Professional & Business Services	1,630	1,610	1,610	1.2	1.2
Education & Health Services	4,510	4,530	4,400	-0.4	2.5
Leisure & Hospitality	2,570	2,560	2,620	0.4	-1.9
Other Services	1,160	1,160	1,140	0.0	1.8
Government Education	2,490	2,600	2,430	-4.2	2.5
Government Administration	2,250	2,000	2,090	12.5	7.7
Government Tribes	760	750	710	1.3	7.0

*Preliminary Estimate

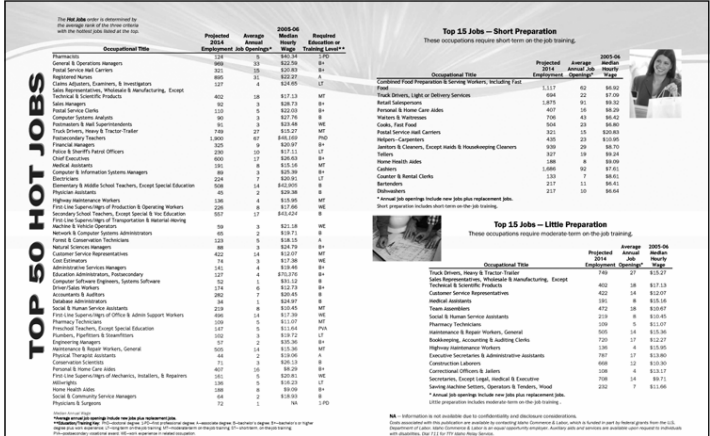
**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

creased cell phone coverage thanks in part to a new tower under construction by Inland Cellular." We felt like it was time to put a new tower on line," said Inland Cellular manager Chip Damato. "We need the tower to have better coverage and to add capacity to our existing network." Along with adding capacity, the new tower along the Grangeville truck route is set up with microwaves, which will allow Grangeville residents to have better broadband services. The new air cards that are used with laptops for Internet service will have better

the company's staff took 23 engineers to Tucci's, an Italian restaurant in Moscow. Schweitzer tries to schedule its courses around important events at Washington State University and the University of Idaho such as graduation, parent's weekends and sporting events so as not to compete for lodging and restaurants.

NEZ PERCE AND ASOTIN COUNTIES

- Doug Tweedy, Regional Economist
1158 Idaho St., Lewiston, ID 83501
(208) 799-5000 ext. 3511
E-mail: doug.tweedy@labor.idaho.gov



North Central Idaho News - Hot Jobs Table

North Central Idaho Table 2: Projected Employment Opportunities		
Industry	Avg. Hourly Wage	Required Education
NORTH CENTRAL IDAHO 42 HOT JOBS		
Accountants and Auditors	\$20.45	Bachelor's degree
Carpenters	\$15.73	Long-term on-the-job training
Claims Adjusters, Examiners, and Investigators	\$24.65	Long-term on-the-job training
Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, Including Fast Food	\$6.92	Short-term on-the-job training
Computer and Information Systems Managers	\$25.39	Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work experience
Computer Software Engineers, Systems Software	\$31.12	Bachelor's degree
Cooks, Restaurant	\$8.52	Long-term on-the-job training
Correctional Officers and Jailers	\$13.17	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Cost Estimators	\$17.38	Work experience in a related occupation
Customer Service Representatives	\$12.07	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Driver/Sales Workers	\$12.73	Short-term on-the-job training
Electricians	\$20.91	Long-term on-the-job training
Engineers	\$35.36	Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work experience
Financial Managers	\$20.97	Bachelor's or higher degree, plus work experience
Fire Fighters	\$11.54	Long-term on-the-job training
Forest Workers	\$18.15	Associate degree
Gaming Dealers	*	Postsecondary vocational award
Highway Maintenance Workers	\$15.95	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Hotel, Motel, and Resort Desk Clerks	\$8.32	Short-term on-the-job training
Machinists	\$16.22	Long-term on-the-job training
Maintenance and Repair Workers, General	\$15.36	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Medical Assistants	\$15.16	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Millwrights	\$16.23	Long-term on-the-job training
Network and Computer Systems Administrators	\$19.71	Bachelor's degree
Personal and Home Care Aides	\$8.29	Short-term on-the-job training
Pharmacists	\$40.34	First professional degree
Physical Therapist Assistants	\$19.06	Associate degree
Physician Assistants	\$29.38	Bachelor's degree
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	\$19.72	Long-term on-the-job training
Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	\$17.11	Long-term on-the-job training
Postal Service Clerks	\$22.03	Short-term on-the-job training
Registered Nurses	\$22.27	Associate degree
Retail Salespersons	\$9.32	Short-term on-the-job training
Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing	\$17.13	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Sawing Machine Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Wood	\$11.66	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Social and Human Service Assistants	\$10.45	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Teachers	\$48,169	Doctoral degree
Team Assemblers	\$10.67	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Truck Drivers, Heavy and Tractor-Trailer	\$15.27	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Waiters and Waitresses	\$6.42	Short-term on-the-job training
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	\$13.67	Long-term on-the-job training